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Title: Need to set up AIIMS like Institute at Deoghar in Jharkhand.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): With respect to the proposed plan to set up AIIMS like Institute in each state of the country and I wish to raise the concerns of the people of Santhal Pargana region in Jharkhand.

The state Government of Jharkhand has worked towards the AIIMS plan by allotting land including making available 200 acres of land at Deoghar which is a district in the state and home to the famous Dwadash Jyotirling and Shaktipith, where 5 crore pilgrims visit every year as well as the site for an upcoming international airport.

My insistence for setting up the AIIMS like Institute at Deoghar is mainly on account of its geographically central location and ease of commuting for the patients from across Deoghar-Dumka and Godda. Deogarh is on the Kolkata-Patna main rail route and also connected with three National Highways.

Deoghar is one of the centre points of the Santhal Pargana region and as you are aware, the entire Santhal Pargana region is backward, poor and suffers from utter deprivation. This area does not have any medical facilities at all and needless to say the reduction on public health spending and the growing inequalities in health and healthcare are taking its toll on the marginalized and socially disadvantaged population of Santhal Pargana. This area is prone to malnutrition with an estimated 75 per cent children and mothers being anemic.

Accordingly, I would like to once again request that given the availability of land, the central location, transportation infrastructure and the needs of the people of Jharkhand, it is highly desirable that the AIIMS be set up at Deoghar, Jharkhand and a decision to this effect may be taken at the earliest.